LIFESTYLE / D1

Home trends in table settings for the holidays 2008

WORLD / A26

Russia orders halt to war in Georgia

MOTORING / B2-4

Subic-like traffic plan being tested at UP Diliman—basis of RP's new road order

METRO / A23

Police warn of con artists in posh hotels

Senators: GMA riding on Nene's federalism bill

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Norman Bordadora

SENATORS YESTERDAY EXPRESSED WARiness over the move by President Macapagal-Arroyo to ride on a bill filed in April by Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. pushing for a federal form of government that had

SENATORS/A11

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Wednesday, August 13, 2008 ★★ Pisarelou / Vol. 23 / No. 249 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

Court of Appeals presiding judge also under fire

By Jerome Aning

THE SUPREME COURT PANEL INVESTIgating improprieties and an alleged bribery attempt in the Court of Appeals (CA) yesterday called into question the leadership itself of Presiding Justice Conrado Vasquez Jr.

The court dispute resulted in the controversial decision favoring Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) over the Government

COURT/A10

All systems go for Cha-cha

GMA wants constituent assembly convened

By Christine O. Avendaño

THE PALACE BACKED OFF two years ago from a "grand deception," as the Supreme Court ruling put it.

Now, it's all systems go for Charter change.

This was announced yesterday by Press Secretary Jesus Dureza a day after President Macapagal-Arroyo herself said that she favored federalism to resolve a bloody Moro war for self-rule in Mindanao.

Dureza said Ms Arroyo was supporting a Senate resolution introduced by Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. seeking to turn the two chambers of Congress into a constituent assembly to amend the 1987 Constitution and adopt a federal system of government.

In a press briefing, Dureza said that 13 senators had signed Pimentel's resolution that envisioned the creation of 11 federal states and that four other senators were supporting the measure.

The shift to a federal type of government was discussed during the President's meeting with the Cabinet security cluster yesterday, Dureza said.

On Monday, Ms Arroyo told visiting Swiss President Pascal Couchepin that she was advocating "federalism as a way to ensure long-lasting peace in Mindanao." Although she did not elaborate, Dureza later told reporters this would be done by amending the Constitution.

It was Ms Arroyo's first public state-

ALL SYSTEMS/A11



DISTINGUISHED VISITOR José Ramos-Horta, president of East Timor and Nobel laureate who is here on a four-day state visit, is welcomed by President Macapagal-Arroyo to the Palace on Tuesday with arrival honors including a pass in review. (Story on Page A6.)

Comelec: More than half of ARMM poll results in

By Kristine L. Alave

POLITICIANS AND VOTERS CAN SAY goodbye to the suspense and the long wait for election results.

Less than 24 hours after precincts closed, the Commission on Elections had received more than half of the results from Monday's automated balloting in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)—an experiment for the 2010 national polling.

Comelec Chair Jose Melo said he was "very, very satisfied" with the conduct of the elections in the ARMM, dubbed the "cheating capital" of the Philippines.

"The voting yesterday was very, very well done," Melo said in a press briefing.

With the smooth balloting in the ARMM, Melo said the Comelec was now ready to automate the 2010 polling. "There is no stopping this. Onward to 2010," he said.

As of 11:30 a.m. yesterday, the Com-

COMELEC/A19

Rebels gone, evacuees returning, says gov

By Edwin Fernandez, and Jeoffrey Maitem Inquirer Mindanao and Nikko Dizon in Manila

MIDSAYAP, NORTH COTABATO—ALL the villages in North Cotabato have been cleared of Moro rebels and the more than 100,000 people displaced by weeks of fighting have started to return home, according to Gov. Jesus Sacdalan.

"We hope there will be no more fighting," Sacdalan told the Inquirer by phone yesterday.

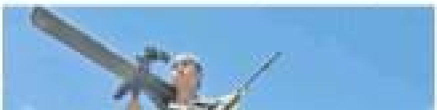
Sacdalan said Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) forces under Ameril Umbra Kato had "abandoned the barangays they occupied" here and in the towns of Pikit and Aleosan.

The police and the military have confirmed the withdrawals, he said.

"The portion of the highway linking Cotabato and Davao, which was briefly occupied by the MILF guerrillas Monday morning was opened again," Sacdalan said.

A total of six barangays in North Cotabato and one in Maguindanao had been cleared by the military, said Lt. Gen. Cardozo Luna, who is overseeing

REBELS/A11



THE VICTORS Government forces are not letting down their guard even after they reportedly cleared all the MILF-occupied barangays in North Cotabato and the more than 100,000 displaced persons have started to return home.

'We are MILF, we are not a lost command'

By Arlyn dela Cruz Contributor

COMMANDER OMBRA KATO, HEAD of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) 105th Base Command, said on Monday that he did not violate any orders from his superiors and that he was not a renegade.

WE ARE MILF/A11

TV reporter witnesses 4-hour dying of a Marine

By Nikko Dizon

WHAT THIS TV REPORTER WITnessed on Monday in Tipo-Tipo, Basilan, echoes yet again the tragedy of soldiers dying in the battlefield because of the limitations of the Armed Forces itself.

It also showed that the issue, one of a number raised five years ago by renegade junior military officers in the Oakwood mutiny, remains a problem and is far from resolution.

By his account yesterday to the Inquirer, GMA 7 reporter Jiggy Manicad traveled with his crew to the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) for a "simple coverage" of the

TV REPORTER/A11

Beijing 2008

MEDALS	G	S	B	TOT
China	13	2	4	19
United States	7	6	8	21
South Korea	6	5	1	12
Italy	3	4	2	9
Australia	3	1	5	9

As of 10:45 p.m. See related story on Page A21

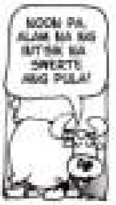
Referees see red, say psychologists

WASHINGTON—IF THREE GERman psychologists have it right, the crimson-clad Chinese teams has all the advantage in the Olympics.

The psychologists found that sports referees have a distinct bias for competitors in red uniforms.

In a research on referees of

REFEREES/A11



RP's best hope for Olympic gold medal climbs ring today

By Ted S. Melendres Sports Editor

BEIJING—WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SILver medalist Harry Tañamor finally climbs into the ring today in what is perhaps the most anticipated outing by a Filipino in the Philippines' busiest day so far in the 29th Olympiad here.

Shouldering his nation's hope of ending its Olympic gold medal drought, the 29-year-old Tañamor takes on Ghana's Manyo Plange in the sixth of 13 light flyweight bouts that start at 7 p.m. (same time in Manila) at the Beijing Workers Stadium.

Archer Mark Javier shoots 18 arrows against Chinese Taipei's Kuo Cheng-wei in one of the 32 knockout matches in the men's

Fita 70-meter competition, while swimmers Miguel Molina and Christel Simms join the fray in the qualification stages of their events.

Tañamor, the country's lone boxing entry, battles a stranger in the 21-year-old Ghanaian who topped last year's African championship after moving down a weight class from flyweight.

The Zamboangueño's cornermen, Cuban Enrique Sruyriet Tintort and Pat Gaspi, were not a bit bothered that Tañamor was almost half a kilogram overweight on Tuesday morning, according to national amateur boxing chief Manny Lopez.

"Coach Enrique told Harry to eat fruits and everyone to relax as he has prepared

RP'S BEST/A11

Phelps bags 3rd gold, joins Olympic elite

BEIJING—UNSTOPPABLE MICHAEL PHELPS swam to within one victory of becoming the greatest Olympian of all time on Tuesday.

The 23-year-old swimming wonder cruised to his third title of the Beijing Games with a record-breaking win in the 200m freestyle to join US athlete Carl Lewis, US swimmer Mark Spitz, Finnish distance runner Paavo Nurmi and Soviet gymnast Larysa Latynina as a nine-time gold medal winner.

Victory in the 200m butterfly on Wednesday will confirm Phelps as the most successful Olympian in history and with still four more events to come, the Baltimore swim-

PHELPS/A11

WEATHER FORECAST

Second
FRONT PAGE

SUERTRES

EZ2

SIX DIGIT

6/42 LUZON/VIS-MIN

P8,094,535.20

POWER LOTTO 5/55+1/18

P50,000,000.00

$34-M Marcos money intact

PNB says funds not missing, still held in escrow

By Doris C. Dumlao and TJ Burgonio

THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK SAID YESterday that the $34 million worth of assets recovered from the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, which it is holding in escrow, is not missing.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Malaysia, RP hold rescue exercises

'Japino' girl completes registration as Japanese citizen





Religion no basis for people's movement–Ramos-Horta

By Norman Bordadora

TIMOR LESTE (EAST TIMOR) President Jose Ramos-Horta yesterday said religion should not be used as the basis for any people's movement.

The winner of the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize explained that the experience of the predominantly Catholic East Timor in the struggle against the mainly Muslim Indonesian invaders showed the benefits of separating religion from politics.

Ramos-Horta's remarks were particularly significant in the Philippines as alleged "lost command" units of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) had occupied several villages in North Cotabato and committed atrocities against residents including Christians in the area.

"We never manipulated religion... We never used religion to advance a cause," he said yesterday in a public forum at the University of the Philippines' College of Law.

Ramos-Horta explained that isolating the political struggle from religious belief resulted in Timorese people's respect for Indonesian civilians and made the "friendship" and reconciliation of both easier with Jakarta.

"Not one single Indonesian civilian was killed by the resistance. Not one in 24 years," he said referring to the years after East Timor came under Indonesian control in 1975.



EAST TIMORESE President Jose Ramos-Horta is welcomed in Malacañang by President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Ramos-Horta was responding to a question on how peace in the region could be pursued and maintained by the countries and other stakeholders.

He said the youths in both East Timor and Indonesia were now playing a major role in establishing ties of friendship and reconciliation between the two peoples.

Ramos-Horta delivered a lecture and answered questions on peace, reconciliation and the East Timor experience at the very hall that would have played host to him and Timorese resistance leaders in 1994.

He was stopped from entering the country because of lobbying by the Indonesian government at that time.

Looking back, Ramos-Horta said efforts of the Indonesian and Philippine governments to stop him from delivering a speech on the situation of the East Timorese under the Jakarta government worked in his favor.

"If we had been allowed to enter and speak before the forum, it would have just been another forum... Because of the mishandling of the Indonesian government and the uproar it generated, we were able to draw international attention to East Timor," he said.

Ramos-Horta said the international attention generated by the forum in Manila hastened East Timorese independence.

Five years later in 1999 and with support from the United Nations, East Timor broke free from Indonesia. In 2002, it became a sovereign state.

"When the Philippines finally found itself free from the dictatorship (in 1986), I said it was only a matter of time before East Timor was also freed," Ramos-Horta said referring to what he called a trend of countries being freed from oppression at that time. "You started it," he said.

"Of course, it took more time than I thought it would," he added, drawing hearty laughter from the audience.

Ramos-Horta also said he had fond memories of former Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr., who led the anti-Marcos efforts in the United States. He said he listened to the Filipino martyr's lectures in Boston in the early 1980s.

East Timor leader tells GMA of ordeal

By Christine O. Avendaño

ALTHOUGH HE STILL SUFFERS from some pain, visiting Timor Leste (East Timor) President Jose Ramos-Horta yesterday told President Macapagal-Arroyo that he has fully recovered six months after the attempt on his life.

This is the first meeting of the two leaders since last year.

According to Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo, Ms Arroyo and Ramos-Horta are "old friends from way back," and they talked briefly about the latter's ordeal when he was shot and wounded in his home in Dili early this year by armed intruders.

Ramos-Horta, here for a four-day state visit, was in Malacañang where he had a "friendly" discussion with Ms Arroyo during their bilateral meeting that ended with the two leaders witnessing the signing of three agreements on education, textiles and fisheries, and diplomat training and development.

Last Feb. 11, he was shot in an assassination attempt. He sustained multiple injuries and was in critical condition. He was flown to Australia for treatment and regained consciousness after 10 days. On April 17, more than two months after the attempt on his life, the fully recovered Ramos-Horta returned to East Timor.

"President Ramos-Horta said some benefit came out of the [incident], although he suffered a lot. Some 600 rebel soldiers returned to the fold and pledged their allegiance and support to the East Timor government," Romulo said, adding that there was now peace and stability in that country.

According to the foreign secretary, Ramos-Horta "has fully recovered but he still [suffers from] some pains."

"It's natural because of the trauma and wounds that he suffered," Romulo told reporters.

During their talk, Ramos-Horta reiterated to Ms Arroyo his country's support for the bid of Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago for the top post in the International Court of Justice.

Corrections

IN THE AUG. 3 ISSUE, an article and photo caption on Page A16 of the Sports section—"Fighting Filipino"—misspelled the name of a Filipino athlete. The athlete's name is Sheila—not Shella—Mae Perez.

* * *

THE SAME ARTICLE misstated the age of the youngest Filipino representative to the Beijing Olympics. Weightlifter Hidilyn Diaz is 17—not 16—years old.

* * *

IN THE AUG. 8 ISSUE, a photo caption on Page A6 misstated that the Kalayaan Group of Islands is also known as the Spratlys. The Kalayaan Group of Islands is only a part of the Spratly Islands.

* * *

IN THE SAME ISSUE, a photo caption on Page E1 of the Lifestyle section misstated the surname of a magazine editor. The editor's name is Anna Sobrepeña—not Soperña.

* * *

IN THE AUG. 11 ISSUE, the front-page banner story—"DILG plans bomb MILF lair"—misstated the current position of Emmanuel Piñol. He is the vice governor—not governor—of North Cotabato. Jesus Sacdalan is the governor of the province.

* * *

IN THE SAME ISSUE, Amando Doronila's analysis on the front page—"Moro homeland pact becomes a ticking bomb"—misstated that 42 barangays in Iligan City comprised 82 percent of the city's territory. Iligan City is composed of 44 barangays, eight of which cover 82 percent of the city's territory.

* * *

IN THE SAME ISSUE, a photo caption on Page E1 of the Entertainment section misspelled the surname of an Inquirer columnist. The columnist's name is [illegible].

Don't become mules, Pinoy travelers told

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS yesterday warned Filipinos traveling abroad about getting involved in narcotics and illicit drugs trafficking.

The travel advisory came following President Macapagal-Arroyo's visit recently to China where 32 Filipinos, some of them women and two of them pregnant, are in jail after being arrested for carrying illegal drugs into the country.

[illegible]

Criminal syndicates

[illegible]

"Filipino nationals are urged to exercise caution in their travels overseas and to report any incident involving offers such as those indicated above to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) [illegible]," the advisory said.

RP workers flee Georgia

MORE THAN 30 FILIPINO WORKERS have left Georgia due to fighting there between Georgian and Russian forces, the Foreign Department said Tuesday.

[illegible]

Eight million Filipinos, or nearly 10 percent of the country's population, work abroad in scores of countries. Remittances they send home are a major pillar of the domestic economy. AFP

Manila Bay rehab to cost P100B, SC told

[illegible]

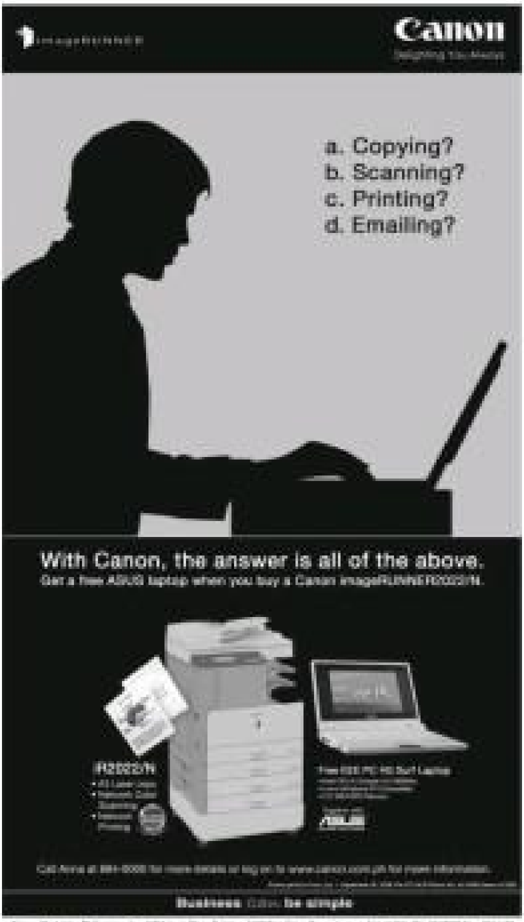






OPOSA

[illegible]



Jamby: I have proof

[illegible]



Purificacion Ulanday; 83

PURIFICACION S. Ulanday, mother of Inquirer associate editor Abelardo S. Ulanday, died last Monday after a lingering illness. She was 83.

She is survived by her children Abelardo and Leila, Alfonso and Minda, daughter-in-law Angelita, Jose, and grandchildren Maria Leribel, Joe Michael, Rommel and Gina, Raquel and Jake, Rhea, Rafael, Jonathan, Kris and Niño, Joonee, Lora Mae, and great-grandchildren.

Her remains now lie at Chapel C, Marian Memorial Chapels, on Marcos Highway, Antipolo City. Interment will be on Saturday, Aug. 16, 2008, at Heaven's Gate 1 Memorial Park, Antipolo City.

Esperon fails to mollify solons on MOA

No answers

Anti-Moro

Rallies vs MOA

The Daily Gospel



NUTRIJUICE VS ANEMIA

UP workers, teachers press DBM for pay hike

By Marlon Ramos

Not enough

Private college cool to ladderized education plan

All systems go for Charter change



WAY TO GO Press Secretary Jesus Dureza tries to be convincing when he says that federalism is the way forward in Mindanao during the press conference on Tuesday at the Palace.

Full support of Pimentel

'Naughty insinuations'

Bernas formula

Senators: GMA riding on Nene's federalism bill

Systems overhaul

Gloria forever movement

94% House

GMA echoing Pimentel

Gov't offer

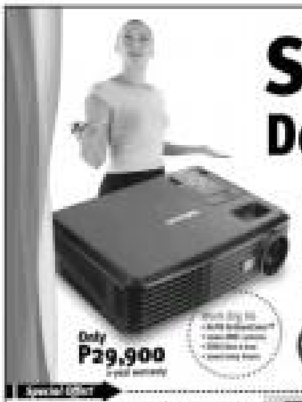
Senators want Sabio sacked from PCGG

His own backyard

Compromised integrity

Recto takes oath, vows transparency at Neda





Phelps eating lots of pasta and pizza

[illegible]

3 massages a day

[illegible]

Up at 4:30 a.m.

[illegible]

Phelps bags 3rd gold, joins ...



[illegible]

Once in a century

[illegible]

Hardest part

[illegible]

Record books

[illegible]

NBC Olympics coverage rakes it in



Eclectic mix

Lonely sponsors

Family affair

Seat fillers

RP's best hope for Olympic gold medal ...

2 events each

Simms' turn

Six victories mean gold

Referees see red, say psychologists



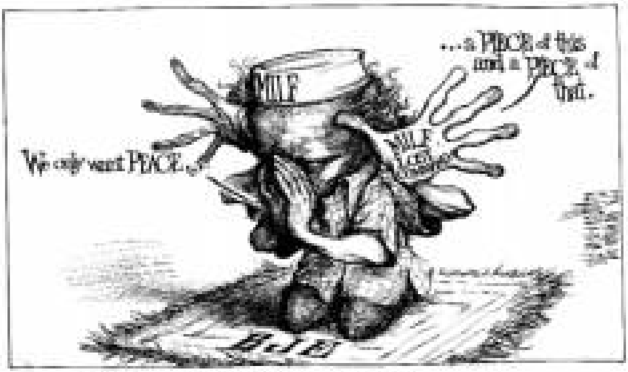


INQUIRER

OPINION

The original sin

EDITORIAL



RP loses P500-M tax to fast operators

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Decadence

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Peace through federalism?

ANALYSIS



Amando Doronila

Ancestral domain

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Land and peace

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

'Royal and Pontifical'

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

YELG vows to support 'Kaya Natin' campaign

LETTERS

Heads should roll for sea tragedies

Client decries PhilPost's poor service

Trillanes sees lasting peace for Philippines

Across the NATION

Foes ready graft rap vs Among Ed

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—PAMPANGA VICE GOV. Joseller Guiao and the provincial board have ordered the local finance committee to submit financial documents in preparation for the filing of a technical malversation case against Gov. Eddie Panlilio.



BATTLE READY
An Army soldier rests in a hammock waiting for orders from higher-ranking officers in the front lines in Barangay Bailo, Malapag, North Cotabato.

NEWSBRIEFS

■ NAGA CITY
Market exec shot dead

■ ILIGAN CITY
3 Transco towers bombed

■ SORSOGON
Mobile LTO services

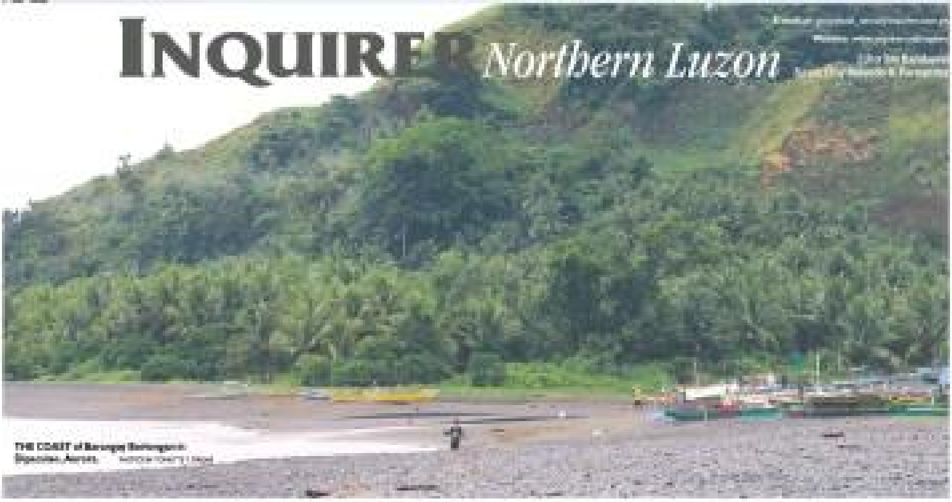
■ CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
Business ease in C. Luzon

■ BATANGAS
School homecoming

Execs give selves 20 days to fix NorthRail

2 workers without masks die in septic tank task

INQUIRER Northern Luzon



THE COAST of Barangay Borlongan in Dipaculao, Aurora.

Aurora village folk survive 'tsunami'

'They followed the alarm. They brought what they must take with them. They followed the signs, got here in time and saved themselves'

By Ruerto Orejas
Dipaculao, Aurora

AT 3 P.M. ON AUG. 1, WHEN the "batingaw" (empty oxygen tank) was banged by a barangay leader to sound off the tsunami alert following what was felt as a strong "earthquake," residents of Borlongan in Dipaculao town in Aurora rushed out of their houses and schools and left their farms. They ran in a single direction.



BORLONGAN village chair Ronaldo Mallo starts the headcount of "survivors" of tsunami.

"They followed the alarm. They brought what they must take with them. They followed the signs, got here in time and saved themselves," ...

In The Know

PHIVOLCS defines tsunami as "series of sea waves commonly generated by (undersea) earthquakes."

Tsunamis can occur when the earthquake is shallow-seated and strong enough to vertically displace parts of the seabed and disturb the mass of water over it, according to the agency.

Phivolcs has recorded 12 destructive tsunamis in the country from 1828 to 1984.

Hazard map



THIS signage instructs people where to go in case a tsunami strikes.

300 Moro rebels attack Basilan town; soldier, civilian killed

By Julie Alipala
Inquirer Mindanao

ZAMBOANGA CITY—A civilian and a Marine were killed when 300 suspected Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels attacked Tipo-Tipo town in Basilan on Monday.

Four rebels were also killed in the attack that started at 9 a.m. and ended at 3 p.m.

Rear Admiral Emilio Marayag, Naval Forces Western Mindanao commander, said three soldiers were also wounded.

A report from the Western Mindanao Command identified the slain soldier as Cpl Angelo Alano, and the wounded as Cpl Bengie Timagos, Pfc Reyson Bodiao and a certain Corporal Bengson.

Tipo-Tipo Mayor Ying Isnaid told the Inquirer by phone that residents saw the fleeing rebels bring with them around 20 people. "We cannot say if those carried away were killed or wounded," he said.

But what Isnaid could say for certain was that Lamarne Indanan, 50, a civilian, was killed during the fire fight between Marine soldiers and the rebels.

10,000 displaced

Isnaid said some 10,000 people were displaced during the fighting, preventing the villages of Tipo-Tipo Poblacion, Bagsakan and Silangkum from holding the elections for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) on Monday.

Senior Supt. Salik Macapantao, provincial police chief, said contrary to Isnaid's earlier report that several houses were burned by the rebels, "there's only one big house that was torched."

"Some houses were damaged due to mortar fire," he said, adding that he could not say if the mortars were fired by the rebels or the government forces.

Jiggy Manicad, a reporter of TV station GMA 7, said he saw four bodies of suspected Moro rebels who were killed during the clash. (Story on Page A1.)

Manicad, who was reported to have gone missing since Monday morning, said he stayed in a "safe ground" as advised by [illegible] town Mayor [illegible].

Manicad was covering the Cabangalan Bridge in [illegible] town, which was damaged by a land mine explosion at dawn on Monday, when the Tipo-Tipo attack happened.

"There was no cellular site in the area so it's difficult to send communications," Manicad said.

Isnaid said that as early as Saturday he had received intelligence reports that MILF rebels were planning to attack the town to disrupt Monday's polls.

He said he shared that information with authorities, who deployed 30 Marine soldiers and three policemen to the Tipo-Tipo Elementary School, a polling center.

Outnumbered

Marayag said the soldiers and policemen detailed at the Tipo-Tipo Elementary School were outnumbered by the rebels "who wanted to disrupt the election."

But Marayag said the soldiers and policemen fought back and "stood the line," leaving a soldier killed and three others wounded.

Marayag insisted that "there was no takeover of the town."

"The rebels just tried to penetrate the school and their sole aim was to disrupt the elections," he said.

Macapantao said the rebels also "took hold of big houses."

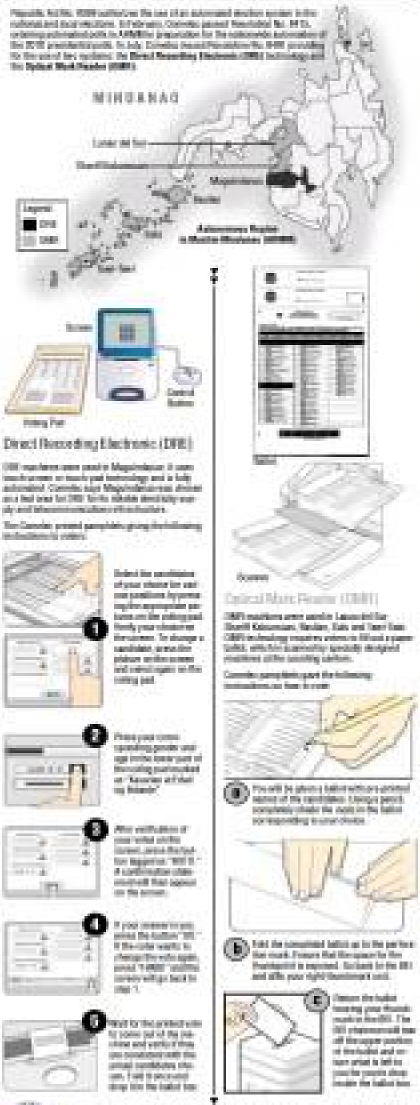
"They occupied those houses, and I was informed there were snipers detailed in some of the big houses," he said.

He denied reports that the rebels also raided the police station.



NOT SO FAST Election lawyer Romulo Macalintal monitors the country's first automated election held in the ARMM region at the Comelec office at Palacio del Gobernador, Intramuros, Manila. At press time, the verdict on e-voting was that it's fast but slow in the transmission of votes.

How automated elections worked in ARMM



Comelec ...

From page A1

[illegible] regional board of canvassers in Manila had received more than half of the results from voting centers in the provinces of Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Sulu, Basilan, Tawi-Tawi, and Shariff Kabunsuan.

In past elections, the canvassing often took days on end before the Comelec proclaimed the winners.

99.3% Maguindanao votes in

Maguindanao, where voters used a touch-pad and touch-screen machine that directly recorded their votes, 99.3 percent of the votes had been tabulated and transmitted to Manila as of 11:30 a.m. yesterday, the Comelec said.

In the other provinces, where the paper-based Optical Mark Reader (OMR) system was used, the percentage of votes counted was: 99.5 percent in Shariff Kabunsuan, 83.00 in Lanao del Sur, 75.20 percent in Basilan, 35.85 percent in Sulu and 42.79 percent in Tawi-Tawi.

"I think these are fairly good numbers," Melo said, adding that 84 percent of the 1.5 million registered ARMM voters trooped to the polls.

"It was double the percentage of the target of 30-40 percent," he said, adding that ARMM voters were curious and excited to pioneer the use of the voting machines.

'Nature was the enemy'

Commissioner Rene Sarmiento said Tawi-Tawi and Sulu lagged behind because rough seas delayed the transport of ballot boxes from island municipalities to the voting centers. "Nature was our enemy," Sarmiento said.

At the rate results were arriving, Melo said winners in the gubernatorial and vice gubernatorial races may be proclaimed by today.

Maguindanao results came in faster because the votes were directly recorded inside the Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) system. Melo said he expected the votes from DRE to be finished within eight hours.

In other provinces, Melo said it was more difficult to consolidate the results because the ballots had to be transported to counting centers. He said this was being discussed with the machine suppliers.

Results in real time

At the Comelec session hall, service provider Smartmatic-Sahi, which was in charge of consolidating election results, installed a projection screen showing the status of transmission by province, town and precinct in real time.

Beside the name of the province, town and precinct is a button which changes its color from red to yellow to show its transmission status.

With a few clicks of the mouse, the Comelec can easily determine which of the towns and precincts had transmitted results to Manila.

The computerized elections in the ARMM was a significant moment for the Comelec, which had been mired by scandals in past elections.

Melo said he expected less electoral protests from the ARMM elections.

Comelec officials said that the automated elections discouraged party operators from manipulating the votes because there was less opportunity for human contact with the ballots.

Good prelude to 2010

Henrietta de Villa, chair of the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting, said Monday's polling was the easiest compared to past exercises.

"I have to commend the Comelec for its work this time. When we have problems, we can easily call them and they addressed it immediately," De Villa said.

In the past, she said her group had difficulties reaching Comelec officials when there were problems.

"We are coming from a Comelec of 2007 and 2004 whose credibility was at below sea level. This is a good prelude for 2010," De Villa said. *With reports from Julie Alipala, Charlie Senase, Ed General, [illegible], Inquirer Mindanao*





Court of Appeals presiding judge also under fire

Rebels gone, evacuees returning, says gov



ASHES TO DUST The grandchildren of a farmer and his wife who were killed by fleeing MILF rebels in Tikapan, Pikit, North Cotabato, revisit the ruins of their home, which was also torched by the rebels.

Air strikes

Moro homeland

Flushed out

Casualties

Stop fighting

Not a lost command

Aid distributed

Life and death

'We are MILF, we are not a lost command'

3 types of orders

Charges to be filed

TV reporter recounts 4-hour dying of a Marine corporal

Bled to death

Daylong firefight

Manicad and his crew

From a distance

'A lot of snipers'

Reprise of kidnapping

Isolated

Glide gently in a gondola under the Rialto Bridge along the Grand Canal. Return to romance, only at...



THE VENICE



Tels: 815-1888 • 816-2768 • 816-3517

A plus METRO



Exec cries foul in extortion try

Drugstore employees accused of not cooperating with police

THE PRESIDENT OF A JAPANESE CAR ACCESsories manufacturing firm will file charges against drugstore officials for allegedly not cooperating with the police in an operation that could have led to the arrest of four women whom he claimed tried to extort money from him.



MIXING ART WITH COFFEE

Fire still rages in Pasay City mall; hydrants far from site, say probers

Legality of suspect's arrest in kidnap case under probe



Armed men in military uniform rob Marikina bank

MetroBriefs

Bakery, canteen, water firm go up in flames

[illegible]

Allan W. Lopez

Fire breaks out in Makati apartment

[illegible]

Man hacks dead cousin's husband

[illegible]

Manileños pay tribute to Fr. Jacinto Zamora

[illegible]

By Nancy C. Carvajal

[illegible]

Livelihood programs for Muntinlupa women

By Julie M. Aurelio

[illegible]

Reflexology

[illegible]

Small fee

[illegible]

Suspect in shootout named; victim in crossfire dies

By Jeannette I. Andrade

[illegible]

Teenager stabbed to death by man peeved at 'glare'

By Allison W. Lopez

[illegible]

Legality ...

[illegible]

Did you know

[illegible]



BACK IN EXILE Thailand's ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and his family go shopping in Guildford, England, on Monday after he returned to exile in the United Kingdom, jumped bail and said he could not expect a fair trial in his homeland on the corruption charges he faces. The Thai Supreme Court issued arrest warrants for Thaksin and his wife on Monday. AP

Pakistan military truck bombed; up to 14 dead

PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN—A ROADSIDE bomb hit a Pakistan Air Force truck in a northwestern city on Tuesday, killing as many as 14 people including a 5-year-old girl, as the military pounded insurgent positions in a nearby tribal region.

The blast hit the vehicle on a bridge on the outskirts of Peshawar, according to provincial police chief Malik Naveed Khan. The truck was traveling between the city and the nearby Air Force base in Badaber.

Interior Ministry Rehman Malik said al-Qaida-linked militants were likely behind the attack. He said Pakistan had been taking action against Taliban militants, but did not say whether Tuesday's attack could be a response to recent military operations in the region.

"It is our firm resolve that we will root out terrorism from Pakistan, and all of our security agencies are working together to achieve this goal," he said.

The powerful explosion tore a large hole in the bridge, reducing the blue truck to a smoldering wreck. The site was littered with debris, blood and also the mangled wreckage of a motorcycle.

A crowd of bystanders gathered at the scene as victims were ferried away in ambulances. Firefighters hosed down the blackened carcass of the truck, and Air Force investigators gathered evidence.

An AP Television News cameraman at the scene said he saw at least 12 dead bodies and about a dozen wounded people. He said the victims included civilians.

There were varying accounts of the toll.

Provincial government spokesperson Iftikhar Hussain said 14 people were killed in all, mostly Air Force personnel, and more than 12 people were wounded.

A 5-year-old girl in a nearby vehicle was among the dead, according to Naveed Khan, a Peshawar police officer.

A bomb-disposal officer at the scene, who requested anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said the explosive device was planted under the bridge and contained about 10 kilograms of explosives.

The bombing follows threats from Taliban militants that they would launch attacks on the government in retaliation for military operations in the northwestern region bordering Afghanistan. AP

Elephant seals join fight against climate change

SYDNEY—ELEPHANT SEALS SWIMMING under Antarctic ice and fitted with special sensors are providing scientists with crucial data on ice formation, ocean currents and climate change, according to a study released on Tuesday.

The seals swimming under winter sea ice have overcome a "blind spot" for scientists by allowing them to calculate how fast sea ice forms during winter.

Sea ice reflects sunlight back into space, so less sea ice means more energy is absorbed by the earth, causing more warming.

"They have made it possible for us to observe large areas of the ocean under the sea ice in winter for the first time," said researcher Steve Rintoul from Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO).

Conventional oceanographic monitoring from ships, satellites and drifting buoys cannot provide observations under sea ice.



SCIENTISTS studying climate change attach a radio transmitter and sensors on the head of an elephant seal in South Georgia, Australia. AP

"Until now, our ability to represent the high-latitude oceans and sea ice in oceanographic and climate models has suffered as a result," said Rintoul, who also works with the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre in Hobart. Reuters

Obesity may be contagious

NEW YORK—OBESITY MAY BE CONTAGIOUS because most people feel good about themselves if they are about as heavy as the people around them, according to new research from an international team of economists.

This could explain the rapid rise in the prevalence of overweight around the world. That is, the more that most people compare themselves to fat become fatter and fatter, fueling a cycle of "imitative obesity."

"What we're finding is that human beings are probably driven tremendously by comparison. Unless you understand these comparisons, you're not going to understand the rest of obesity," Dr. Andrew J. Oswald of the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom told Reuters Health. "Understanding the sociology of obesity is much more important than understanding the biology."

Last year, Oswald and his team published a study showing that people were more likely to become obese if their friends and family members were heavy. Reuters

Do you want to live longer? Run

WASHINGTON—PEOPLE WHO WANT TO live a long and healthy life might want to take up running.

A study published on Monday shows middle-aged members of a runner's club were half as likely to die over a 20-year period as people who did not run.

Running reduced the risk not only of heart disease, but of cancer and neurological diseases such as Alzheimer's, researchers at Stanford University in California found.

"At 19 years, 15 percent of runners had died compared with 34 percent of controls," Dr. Eliza Chakravarty and colleagues wrote in the Archives of Internal Medicine.

"Both common sense and background science support the idea that there is nothing magical about running per se," Stanford's Dr. James Fries, who worked on the study, said in a telephone interview. "It is the regular physical vigorous activity that is important."

The team surveyed 284 members of a nationwide running club and 156 similar, healthy people as controls. They all came from the university's faculty and staff and had similar social and economic backgrounds, and all were 50 or older. Reuters

The WORLD

Russia orders halt to war in Georgia

MOSCOW—RUSSIAN PRESIDENT DMITRY Medvedev ordered a halt to military action in Georgia on Tuesday, after five days of air and land attacks that took Russian forces deep into the small Western-allied nation.

[illegible] AP

Gorbachev: US made 'serious blunder'

WASHINGTON—FORMER Soviet Union leader Mikhail Gorbachev [illegible] AFP



AN OSSETIAN soldier makes a call on his mobile phone near a destroyed tank in Tskhinvali, capital of the Georgian breakaway region of South Ossetia, following heavy fighting in the city. AP

Russia's energy might worries America

WASHINGTON—THE Cold War competition between the United States and Russia [illegible] AP

WorldBriefs

3 China guards slain

[illegible] AP

Activist says he escaped

[illegible] AP

High-risk foreign trip

[illegible] AP

Musharraf urged to quit

[illegible] AP

Transfer of power

[illegible] AP

Giant kangaroo

[illegible] AP

Ex-PM to be freed soon

[illegible] AP

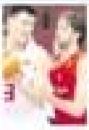


WHAT'S INSIDE

■ World Juniors: So wins, jumps to 4th place /A29

SPORTS

Editor: Teddyvic S. Melendres Associate Editor: Francis T. J. Ochoa



■ Pau shines as Spain nips China /A30



Reward for RP record breakers?

By Ted S. Melendres

BEIJING—FOR THE FIRST TIME since the Games of the 29th Olympiad opened here Friday, the People's Liberation Army ... [illegible]

"What's happening here?" ... [illegible]



[illegible] New RP record

... [illegible]

[illegible] A28



Rank	Country	G	S	B	T	Rank	Country	G	S	B	T
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

BEIJING OLYMPICS

Molina sinks, misses 200m breast semis

By Ted Melendres
Sports Editor

BEIJING—MIGUEL MOLINA floundered in the wake of a furious finish by his rivals in the 200-meter breaststroke Tuesday and settled for sixth place, hopelessly well out of the semifinals at the Beijing Olympics here.

[illegible]

Benign effort

[illegible]

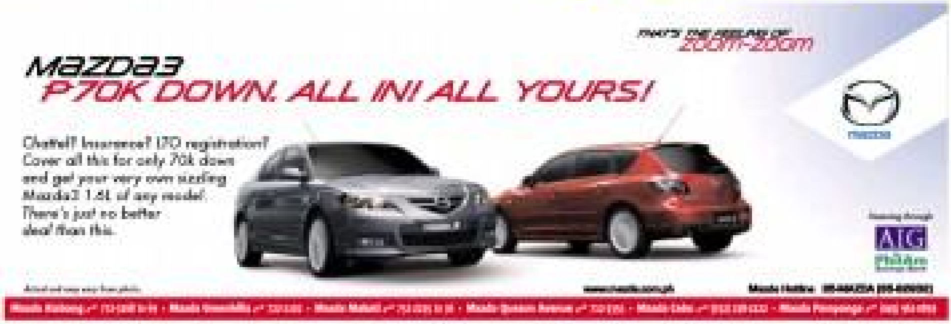


SUPER GYMNAST China's Yang Chen competes on the floor during the men's team final of the artistic gymnastics event of the Beijing Olympics. China won the gold.

[illegible]









WORLD SERIES

Bacolod gals bow out

Manila, ILLAM clouters stay in the hunt

By Cedelf P. Tupas





SPORTSWATCH

San Juan-Mighty Sports trounces Manila I cagers

Xavier edges Lourdes

WTJ Annual stagfest set

Las Piñas stagfest Tuesday

Dizon, Sadua top Highlands Ladies Cup

Olympic doctor makes the pain go away

By Musong R. Castillo



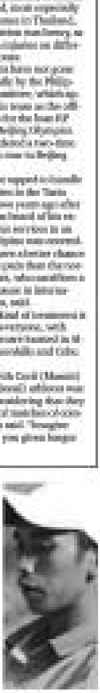
DR. CAMARA works on RP beach volleyball star Diane Pascua.

Fernando, Ababa lead Putra Cup qualifying

By Musong R. Castillo



FERNANDO



ABABA

World Juniors: So wins, boosts title drive



Red Lions aim to do better vs Cardinals

Express seek 3-1 lead against popular Kings



GMA didn't make P15-M pledge for wushu bets, says Puentevella



PUENTEVELLA

Meteors face Bravehearts at Xavier U

Marcelo pulls big escape in Shell karting



Americans rip 'Great Wall' again



Pau shines as Spain nips China

Reward for record breakers?

RP neighbors mining medals in Beijing

DIVING

Chinese still perfect



Is it 'go' or 'go home' for Tañamor?

CLEAN LIVING





Marry me, fan begs torch guard



UNDER HIS WINGSPAN It seems that everything about the Olympics is played under the shadow of American phenomenon Michael Phelps.



CHINA'S Wei Yang competes on the parallel bars during the men's team final of the artistic gymnastics event of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

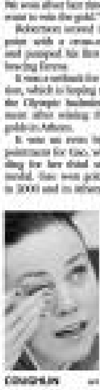
Chinese gymnasts, Phelps loom large over Olympics

BADMINTON

Robertson, Emms rally vs China duo



Perennial boxing ill back again



COUGHLIN



PEIRSOL

Peirsol, 'Fil-Am' Coughlin claim swim golds

Beijing 2008 SPORTS





RAFAEL Nadal celebrates after beating Lleyton Hewitt. AP

TENNIS

Williams sisters, Nadal triumph

BEIJING—SERENA AND VENUS WILLIAMS each had straight-set victories Tuesday to stay on track for a possible matchup in the final, and Rafael Nadal also won as he seeks his first Olympic medal.

Serena Williams raced into the third round at the Olympics, winning the final 10 games to beat Samantha Stosur of Australia, 6-2, 6-0. The match took only 64 minutes. Williams lost just five points in the second set, and dropped only six points on her serve in the match.

Seeded fourth, Williams is playing singles in the Olympics for the first time. She won the gold medal in 2000 at Sydney with sister Venus, who won the singles that year and who joined Serena in the third round Tuesday by beating Iveta Benesova of the Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-4.

"I've never played singles at the Olympics, so this has been really cool for me," Serena said. "Every time I walk out there, it's like I'm playing in my match, but at the same time I have the whole US team on my side. It's good. I really like that feeling."

The sisters are top-seeded in doubles and had a first-round match scheduled Tuesday night. They could meet in the final of singles Saturday.

"That would be fantastic," Venus said. "Obviously it's a long ways away, but the third round makes it closer. I'm really excited for both of us to be playing really well for the US."

In the night session, Rafael Nadal defeated Lleyton Hewitt, 6-1, 6-2. Nadal is seeded second but is assured of overtaking No. 1 Roger Federer in the rankings next week.

Top-seeded Mike and Bob Bryan of the United States won their opening match in doubles, defeating Mark Knowles and Devin Mullings of the Bahamas, 6-2, 6-1.

Lindsay Davenport and Liezel Huber of the United States won their first-round match, beating Klaudia Jans and Alicja Rosolska of Poland 6-2, 6-1.

Davenport said the knee injury that forced her to withdraw from singles last week didn't bother her in the match.

In women's singles, new No. 1 Jelena Jankovic beat Alona Bondarenko, 7-5, 6-1. AP



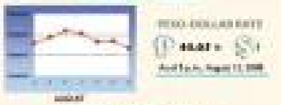
IN THIS ISSUE

- Interim open access rules readied /B2
- DOF, BOI agree on tax breaks /B5

BUSINESS

Foreign investments down 68% in first 5 months

Currencies



Stock Market

Stocks close lower



BSP notes $95M in net outflow in May

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS SLUMPED 68.5 percent in the first five months to $725 million from $2.3 billion a year ago as the global economic slowdown dampened the flow of funds worldwide, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said yesterday.

Peso weakens to 44.65 to a dollar

Interim open access rules readied

By Abigail L. Ho



Maynilad raising $365M

By Amy R. Remo



VAT

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES



Honesto C. General

Vista land H1 profit up 73.2%

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lazaro



BSP spurns politico

Biz Buzz

By the staff

New blood, brains

'You recapitalize me, I recapitalize your bank'

His very own 'Bahay na Puti'

Resurrected Ramcar

Another Port Irene in the works

Foreign investments ...

Security Bank profit down 8%

By Doris C. Dumlao

[illegible]

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

[illegible]

FOREX

Country	Unit	Peso Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Japan	Yen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
United Kingdom	Pound	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hong Kong	Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Switzerland	Franc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Canada	Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Singapore	Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Australia	Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bahrain	Dinar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Saudi Arabia	Rial	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brunei	Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Indonesia	Rupiah	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Thailand	Baht	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
UAE	Dirham	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
EU	Euro	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Korea	Won	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
China	Yuan	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Denmark	Kroner	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
India	Rupee	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Malaysia	Ringgit	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
New Zealand	Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sweden	Kroner	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Taiwan	NT Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

BLACK IN THE BLACK

Change in business tactics saves roofing firm

By Dexter L. Lucas

FEATURE

Costly move

Back in the black

New product

DOF, BOI agree on tax breaks

By Michelle V. Remo

Business



SMC income up by 199%

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lucas

GAINS FROM THE SALE OF ITS STAKE IN two beer companies and its stake in a property venture boosted food and beverage giant San Miguel Corp.'s net income by 199 percent to P20.7 billion in the first six months from year-ago level.

The first semester income included the P9.07 billion gained from the sale of Australian premium brewer J. Boag & Son Pty Ltd., proceeds from the sale of San Miguel Brewery (Indonesia) at P8 billion and P1.8 billion from the sale of San Miguel's entire 29 percent stake in RSA Realty Corp., which owns the Enterprise Center in Makati City.

Last year, San Miguel announced the restructuring of its core businesses in the Philippines—the spinoff of its domestic beer business and its planned diversification into power generation and transmission, mining, infrastructure and utilities.

Revenue in the first half rose 9 percent to P79.4 billion, as most of the company's businesses registered steady revenue growth.

"Faced with challenging economic conditions affecting consumer spending behavior and escalating input costs, we're particularly encouraged by these results. Growth was achieved across almost all of our reporting segments in the first six months of 2008," San Miguel president and chief operating officer Ramon S. Ang said.

Consolidated operating income amounted to P8.21 billion, 28 percent higher than year-ago level. Profit from continuing operations reached P4.5 billion.

San Miguel Brewery's sales volume rose 7 percent while revenue grew by 8 percent to P22.8 billion. Operating income for the first semester reached P7.36 billion, up 25 percent from a year ago.

San Miguel's international beer operations finished the first half with sales volume growth of 4 percent. Revenues rose by 30 percent to $156 million. Sales were strongest in Indonesia and Thailand.

MOTORING



One 'spooked' drive from Baclaran to Monumento

By [illegible]

WE CAN'T HELP but put some religious overtones to it, but the "First Wednesday" drive on Aug. 6, a Baclaran Day [illegible]

[illegible]

Rite of passage, the Porsche 911 Carrera 4





MY DRIFT

First taste



Manner of intervention

One 'spooked' drive from Baclaran to Monumento

Budget workhorse









Most familiar sedan

Environment-friendly

Tuning engines to improve fuel efficiency





ON THE ROAD



Alda Sat Ma-Mendoza



MOTORING

Unique traffic scheme hints of RP's future road order



By Charles E. Buban

MOTORISTS who have visited Subic Bay Freeport Zone in Zambales may have noticed the strict enforcement of traffic rules.

Ideal traffic management

First phase

Second phase

Traffic conferences

LIFESTYLE
Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan
Contributing Editor Lia S. Bernardo

Entertaining

Stylish settings

By Lia Bernardo

FRANNIE AGUINALDO-Jacinto, ever the gracious hostess, shows us how to mix the old and new, to create highly personalized table settings. The pieces she used have been with her and her family since the 1950s. She stylishly combines heirloom pieces with those bought during her travels to create distinct table settings reflective of her personal style. "I have collected many items throughout the

STYLISH C3



Awesome finds

By Lia Bernardo
Contributor

SM IS HOLDING ITS HOME SALE, AND I HAD A wonderful time picking out great finds. It's time to stock up on the essentials or simply update your kitchenware. Here's a list of items that caught my eye.



A GREAT invention if there ever was one, Silicone bakeware is going from P[illegible] for a heart-shaped pan and P[illegible] for the round and muffin pans.

Kitchen items

Anyone who loves to cook will invest in good cookware. The discounts given for these pots and pans make them excellent buys.



BEKA Copper Cookware at [illegible] percent off



BEKA Hard Anodized Cookware at [illegible] percent off



THIS American Legacy blender is a great buy at P[illegible]. And yes, you can always have a spare.



ELEGANT ceramic teapot with its own warmer (P[illegible]). Use it for tea, morning coffee or hot chocolate. Makes a great gift, too!

Bedroom



ESPRIT bedding sets and duvet covers in colorful stylish designs are also available at fantastic discounts. Teenage girls will love these in their bedrooms.



THIS Akemi duvet cover with two matching pillow cases is available along with other modern patterns. Perfect for newlyweds or for your first flat.



THIS ice crusher at P[illegible], is great for making homemade desserts, or use it to crush ice before making fruit shakes in your blender.

Décor



INCENSE holders, P[illegible], inspired by Asian Buddhas are a great gift item, as party giveaways or accents in an Asian-inspired abode.



TEENAGE girls will love this collage picture frame, P[illegible].



MARTHA Stewart wooden picture frames in black, natural and rosewood at P[illegible] each.

Outdoor



POOL towels for your home or vacation hideaway are available for P[illegible], while white bath towels are at P[illegible].



THESE pretty tablecloths can be used for outdoor entertaining. Prices are at P[illegible]-P[illegible].

Mix the old and new to create highly personalized table layouts



THE CHARM is in the details.



DISTINCTLY elegant table surrounded by works of art and, inset, an afternoon tea setting that's perfect for either Continental fare or a Filipino merienda.



Stylish settings

years since I was 17 years old. I started with blue and white antique plates from the Muslim traders and antique dealers in Manila. When I went to Europe and the USA in the '70s, I would go to auctions and get some good buys in Christie's, Sotheby's and Butterfield."

[illegible]

Afternoon tea

[illegible]

Do-it-yourself

With [illegible]



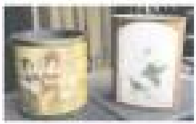


FIND a container that you can convert into a trashbin. Decorate the outer surface to match the room's theme or color.

Decorating trash bins

ALL ROOMS SHOULD HAVE a trash bin. [illegible]

[illegible]



‘Scent-sational’ spa blends



AROMATHERAPY massage relieves stress and gives a sense of well-being.

By Ermerson Policarpio
Contributor

SCENTS PLAY A vital part in the spa world. For thousands of years, aromatherapy has been used to invoke the olfactory senses with different aromas as a way to achieve wellness.



CREATE your own blend using 100 percent pure essential oil.

Timelessness

Endorphin

Medication

Lavender

Eucalyptus

Peppermint

Rose

Philpost makes things right for unhappy graduate

THE CONSUMER
Linda B. Bolido

SSS ID

Promo backfires

LIFESTYLE Home & Entertaining



Home trends for Holiday 2008

DEBENHAMS' BURLESQUE, Pioneer and Transient lines present bursts of color and texture to the classics.

Burlesque

Rebellious, rule-breaking, this trend is about surreal individual expression. Black is the key accent; the dark shades are punctuated with bright touches of emerald, purple and red. Gold and pewter metallics highlight the collection.

Pioneer

Pioneer is a modern take on classic design, focusing on the need for sustainability, ecology and organic products. This trend explores a country and visionary images. Deep earth tones of peat and soil are featured with modern tones of leafy green and soft tomato red.

Transient

A very modern trend, Transient is soft, romantic and futuristic. The mood is fluid and feminine.

In-house designers for Debenhams have also executed their interpretation for Holiday 2008:



BETTY JACKSON

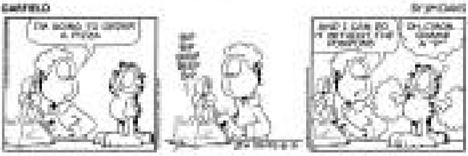
Cushions featuring tie-dye style patterns and bold designs in gray, black and white



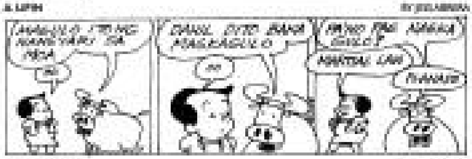
JASPER CONRAN

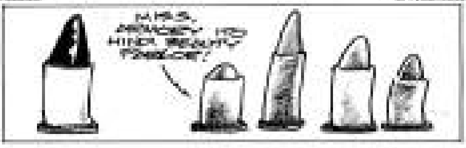
The Jasper Conran [illegible] color as inspiration this season. [illegible] an [illegible] collection. Jasper has a variety of [illegible] in [illegible] and natural [illegible] with stunning [illegible] options. Deep purple and navy blue are also key colors of the collection, as well as [illegible] and [illegible] with [illegible] grays and neutral golds, punctuated with [illegible].

GARFIELD



A. LIPIN





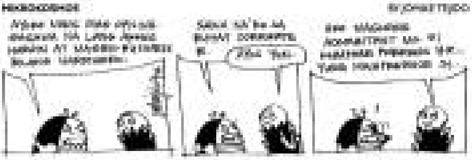
PUGAD BABOY

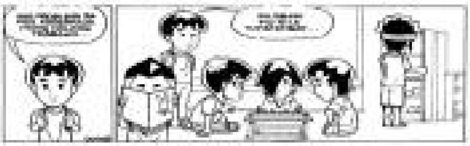


DIVINE COMEDY

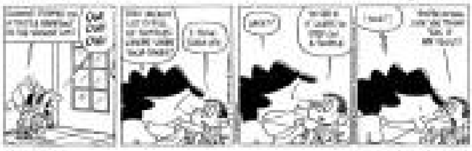


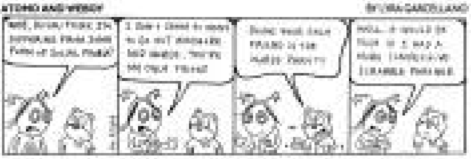
MIKROKOSMOS





BABY BLUES

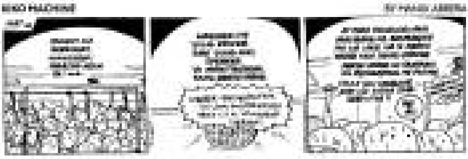




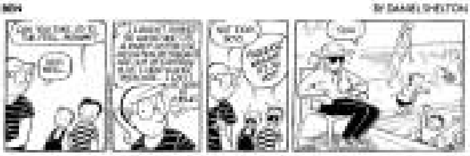
LOVESHOTS



KIKO MACHINE

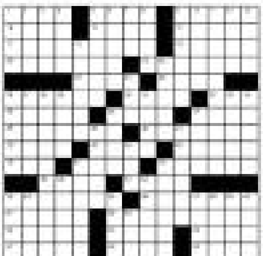


BEN



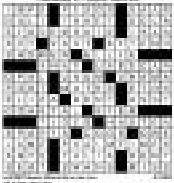
DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS



DOWN

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

6	8	1						
3			1			6		
7		2		3		4	9	
	9			1				
		4	7		5	8		
				6			4	
		3		8		7		9
	6				2			4
9						1	6	2

Difficulty Level ★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle



Studio makes for a great entertaining space, with a Jacuzzi to boot



LINEAR pattern on the door are reflected on the crossing of the cantilevered glass shelf and the mirror in the foyer.

FIELDS of warm tones and gray against earthy wood veneers create depth.



ILLUMINATED mirror makes the most out of the compact bathroom by creating an illusion of more space. Classic in its appeal, the rapture glass sink bowl above the counter looks chic with a minimalist modern vanity.

Occasional bachelor's studio

By Margo C. Rodriguez
Contributor

THE STUDIO IN A GREEN-belt building reeks of quiet luxury. The owner, a businessman, uses it as a weekend pied-a-terre for the "occasional singlehood."

The studio is designed by Edmundo Colma. "There is literally no space for excess detail but there are many desirable elements, albeit naughty ones, such as a whirlpool Jacuzzi underneath a salon maker in the living room; a sauna that evokes the spa experience and a bathroom with a shower head as large as a serving plate that provides a rainshower experience."



THIS handsome wall unit that [illegible] into a desk, clothing and storage transforms the living room into a high-performance space.



THE SIMPLICITY of Philippe Starck's cube water closet and [illegible] adds to the quartz-looking bathroom.

The owner had wanted a multifunctional space where cooking, dining, entertaining and relaxing would be accommodated in 32 square meters.

But Colma explained that the Jacuzzi was placed in the living room so one would not feel claustrophobic. Its nearness to the window enables one to enjoy the view.

In the contemporary room, forms are reduced to their bare essential elements and textures present visual interest. Whitewashed walls are made warm by the expanse of grey oak veneer while sandstone flooring grounds the studio. The space is dominated by a counter, an imposing block of glass and Corian, floating in space that serves as a preparatory area, cooking and dining table.

There are built-in appliance counters that feature top-of-the-line coffee maker and a dishwasher. The glass theme is echoed behind the glass topped counter by the bathroom, enclosed by frosted glass walls. The room is sparsely furnished by a plush sofa that converts into a bed.

To maximize the ceiling, Colma designed recessed lighting alcoves to light up the grey oak veneer walls. The rest of the room is illuminated by up lighters to emphasize its modern aesthetic.

What activities does the owner, in his "bachelor moments" engage in? Let's just say, every man needs to have his personal space some time.



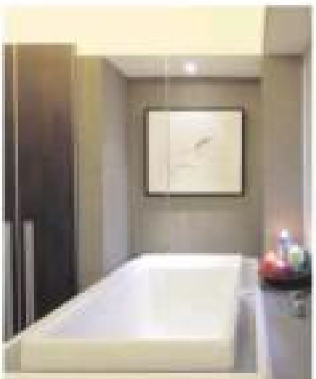
THE RICH wood veneer walls and black glass kitchen counter make a strong impact. This storage unit and table [illegible] but is also looks great. The retractable range hood is another luxury. Cove lighting highlights Colma's signature [illegible] ceilings.



GREAT looks are born from great function as shown in the storage cabinet. Frosted glass makes it easy to look for items.



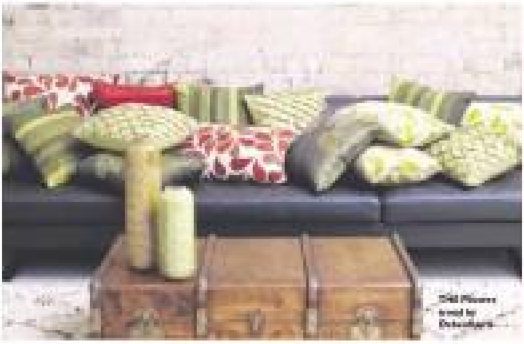
BEIGE stone with sparkling stainless steel fixtures and glass renders soft elegance.

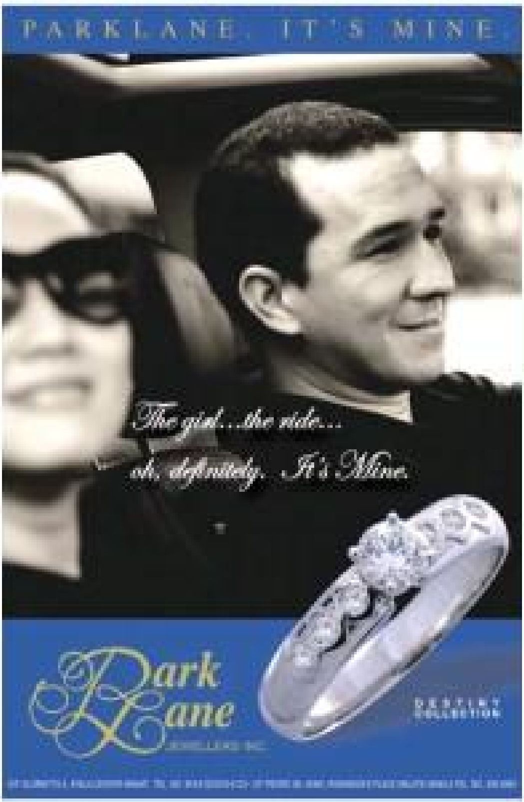


Home trends for . . .



JOHN ROCHA
John Rocha features a soft, cool grey and olive collection highlighted by metallic accents, with rough surfaces printed with collected brushstrokes.







Floral arrangement contest

ASIAM FLORAL SUNDRIES WILL HOLD ITS 4TH Amateur Floral Arrangement Competition on Aug. 23 at the Quezon Hall of the Philippine Columbian Association, Plaza Dilao, Paco, Manila.

The amateur competition has three categories: free space, table arrangement and surprise package. The competition is open to all amateur florists who have never placed in any flower arranging competition in the past.

The competition will be preceded by a one-day seminar on Advanced Floral Art Techniques by multi-awarded international floral artist Mark Pamplog from Australia. Amateur floral designers who wish to join competitions as well as professionals are invited to attend the seminar. Major sponsor is the Southern Gods which is responsible in bringing Mark Pamplog to this event.

Call 2421249 (look for April), 2420084 (Peggy), 0917-8120134 (Allan). Visit their website at www.asiam.com or e-mail asiamfloralsundries@gmail.com. The events are co-sponsored by King Louis Flowers and Plants, Agriculture Filipino Bloom's Floriculture, Pinoymaw Orchids and Tropical Plants and Unigrow.



DENDROBIUMS on a uniquely shaped mahogany stand by Mark Pamplog

Chiodo Collection



Gucci is pleased to introduce Chiodo, a new collection of striking timepieces, whose design is based on the iconic square head nail employed by Gucci since the 1960s. The nail motif has been used in both silver and gold as a decorative detail on the most coveted accessory items.

This symbol, like the highly successful Horsebit collection, derives its origins from the equestrian world and is modeled on the powerful nails used to hold the shoe on the horse's hoof.

The Chiodo collection offers two elegant watch case shapes, square or round that is enriched by a luminescent mother-of-pearl dial for the much-wanted style and grace.

The square styles feature a sophisticated case and bracelet, which lend an unusual, jewel-like quality to their appearance. Distinguished by bold angles and contours, these timepieces are available in a rich range of materials and luxurious finishes, and include both gold and solid 18 K sterling silver versions. Used only rarely in timepiece manufacturing, the latter represents an intrinsic part of the brand's innovative and longstanding heritage in watch making. Pieces of sparkling diamonds can be added for more dramatic and precious options.

The fashionable circular-faced versions are in steel, also available with diamonds punctuating either the dial or case, or encrusted on the nail heads used on the bracelet ends.

Distinctive and modern, the new Chiodo collection aptly illustrates Frida Giannini's unique flair for reinventing the classic Gucci luxury into undeniable modernity for today.

Here in Manila, the all new Gucci Chiodo collection and other highly successful decorated Gucci timepieces are exclusively launched through its authorized distributors ALEXIS JEWELLERS INC. & PARKLANE JEWELRY INC., the Gucci Boutique and other selective watch dealers in the Metro.



ENTERTAINMENT



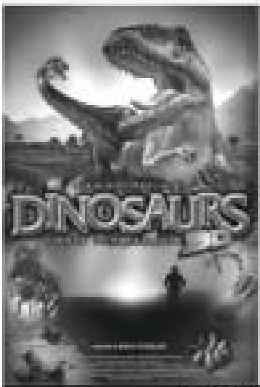
Alternative fare for TV5

The other side of Aga

DOLLY WOOD



SM Cinema movietime



San Miguel Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE

OPENS AUGUST 20

Panasonic

METRO MANILA

RESERVED SEATS NOW AVAILABLE

San Miguel Coca-Cola IMAX

THE DARK KNIGHT
Admission Price: P300

KUNG FU PANDA
Admission Price: P200

THE ALPS
Admission Price: P200

THE PODIUM

THE X-FILES: I WANT TO BELIEVE

WALL-E

LATE SCREENINGS

(THE MUMMY 3)

CINEMA 1
Admission Price: P180

DOBOL TROBOL

A VERY SPECIAL LOVE

RESERVED

SOON TO OPEN

LUZON

SOON TO OPEN

VISAYAS - MINDANAO

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS NOW ACCEPTED IN ALL SM CINEMA BRANCHES.

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MOVIEWORLD

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

GALLERIA

1 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
2 DOUBLE TROUBLE
3 MY SASSY GIRL
4 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE
5 ROGUE
6 WALL - E
7 THE MUMMY: TOMB of the DRAGON EMPEROR
8 Cinemalaya: CONFESSIONAL
9 A VERY SPECIAL LOVE
10 THE DARK KNIGHT



ERMITA

1 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
2 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE
3 ROGUE
4 MY SASSY GIRL
5 DOUBLE TROUBLE
6 WALL - E
7 THE MUMMY: TOMB of the DRAGON EMPEROR
8 A VERY SPECIAL LOVE
9 THE DARK KNIGHT

METRO EAST

1 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
2 DOUBLE TROUBLE
3 WALL - E
4 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE
5 ROGUE
6 A VERY SPECIAL LOVE
7 THE MUMMY: TOMB of the DRAGON EMPEROR
8 DOUBLE TROUBLE / A VERY SPECIAL LOVE

NOVALICHES

1 DOUBLE TROUBLE
2 WALL - E
3 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE
4 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
5 A VERY SPECIAL LOVE

PIONEER

1 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE
2 ROGUE
3 DOUBLE TROUBLE
4 WALL - E



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STA. ROSA

1 DOUBLE TROUBLE
2 WALL - E
3 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE
4 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
A VERY SPECIAL LOVE

LIPA

1 DOUBLE TROUBLE
2 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
3 WALL - E
4 A VERY SPECIAL LOVE

DASMARINAS

1 DOUBLE TROUBLE
2 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
3 WALL - E
4 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE

IMUS

1 DOUBLE TROUBLE
2 WALL - E
3 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
4 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE

ANGELES

1 DOUBLE TROUBLE
2 WALL - E
3 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE
4 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN

STARMILLS

1 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
2 DOUBLE TROUBLE
3 WALL - E
4 THE MUMMY 3
5 A VERY SPECIAL LOVE
6 THE X-FILES: I WANT to BELIEVE

BACOLOD

1 WALL - E
2 DOUBLE TROUBLE
3 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
4 A VERY SPECIAL LOVE
5 THE MUMMY 3
6 MEET DAVE

ILOILO

1 WALL - E
2 DOUBLE TROUBLE
3 YOU DON'T MESS with the ZOHAN
4 A VERY SPECIAL LOVE
5 PONTIANAK
6 THE MUMMY 3

Willie wants to make peace with Joey

From page E4

Peace talk

Past and present

The other side of Aga

Romance flick

Inspiration

Guess list



Top three Idols

Award-winning

Concert repeat



Alternative fare for TV5



More exciting

Not just ballroom









'One Missed Call'



College students discover eerie voicemail messages on their cell phones, each call coming from the near future. Each call has the chilling voice of the recipient during his last moments alive—and each call comes true.

Psychology student Beth Raymond (Shannyn Sossamon) and detective Jack Andrews (Ed Burns) scramble for answers.

'The Bucket List'

Now On Disc

At a crossroads of their lives, corporate billionaire Edward Cole (Jack Nicholson) and working class mechanic Carter Chambers (Morgan Freeman) share a hospital room and discover that they have two things in common: A desire to spend the time they have left doing everything they ever wanted to do before they "kick the bucket" and an unrealized need to come to terms with who they are.

'The Assassination of Jesse James'

Jesse James (Brad Pitt) is America's most notorious criminal, hunted by the law in 11 states. He's also the greatest hero, lauded as a Robin Hood by the public.

But nobody knows Robert Ford (Casey Affleck)—not yet. To bring him to fame, the ambitious 19-year-old plans to befriend Jesse.

Willie wants to make peace with Joey

RUSHES

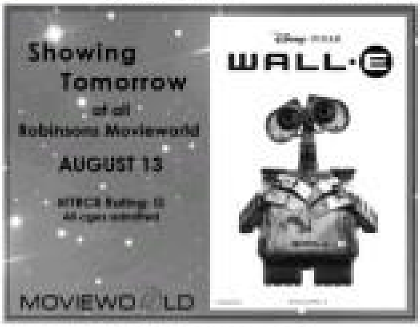


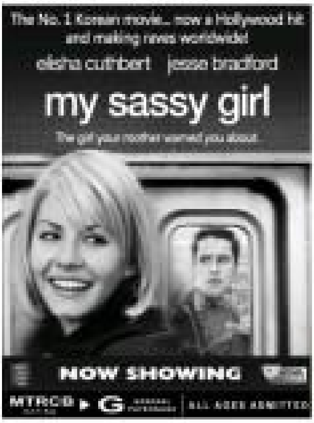
Joey de Leon and Willie Revillame

From Kapamilya to Kapuso

Top of the talk shows

Open door policy









OPENING TODAY



Dobol Trobol (Ready 2 Rambol!)

Confessional

X-Files: I Want to Believe

Wall-E

